

# The Five Frame

Give your child the opportunity to explore the blank five frame first (no objects on it). Ask them what they notice. Encourage them to count the number of boxes.

Next, we recommend placing just a few objects on the five frame starting from the left side and filling to the right from there. Always place only one counter or object in each box.

If your child chooses to fill the five frame in a different way- that's okay! Ask what they are noticing about the number and if there are different ways they can see the number. When *you* fill the frame, model filling from the left to the right to encourage your child to eventually do the same, but do not require they do so.

Use anything that fits within the boxes as counters, but try to keep your items consistent. If you don't want to buy fancy counters we recommend pennies, dried beans, or cheerios as easy options.

Ask questions such as:

- How many (counters) do you see? How do you see them?
- What is another way someone might see them?

If your child is only counting by ones and not attending to the relationship to 5 you can nudge them using questions such as:

- How many more would it take to fill the whole five frame?
- How many more (or less) than 5 do you have? How do you know?

Blank Five Frame on the next page
